We claim:

1. A method for presenting a natural language message to a user from a keystroke output wedge, the method comprising:

5   a)   receiving input data in a keystroke output wedge;

      b)   processing the input data;

      c)   correlating the processed data with a natural language message stored in a memory;

      c)   providing from the keystroke output wedge to a user the natural

10 language message;

      d)   converting the input data into keystroke data; and

      e)   transmitting the keystroke data out of the keystroke output wedge.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the natural language message is

15 provided audibly.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the natural language message is provided visually.

20   4. The method of claim 1 wherein the natural language message is provided at a pre-selected time.

5. A method for presenting a natural language message to a user from a keystroke output wedge, the method comprising:

25   a)   receiving in a keystroke output wedge information from an operating system; and

      b)   providing a natural language message from the keystroke output wedge to a user as a function of the information received from the operating system.

30   6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of querying the operating system for information.

7   The method of claim 6 wherein the information relates to an application program designed to receive keystroke input.

8.   The method of claim 6 wherein the natural language message is a prompt soliciting the user to provide input.

9.   The method of claim 6 wherein the natural language message is feedback provided in response to input received from the user.

10.   The method of claim 6 wherein the natural language message is a status message provided to the user in response to a pre-programmed inquiry from the keystroke output wedge to the operating system.

11.   The method of claim 5 wherein the natural language message is provided audibly.

12.   The method of claim 5 wherein the natural language message is provided visually.

13.   A method for presenting a natural language message to a user from a keystroke output wedge, the method comprising:
        a)   querying an operating system for information,
        b)   receiving in a keystroke output wedge information from the operating system; and
        c)   providing to a user from the keystroke output wedge a natural language message, where the natural language message is a function of the information from the operating system.

14.   The method of claim 13 wherein the information relates to an application program designed to receive keystroke input.

15.   The method of claim 14 wherein the natural language message is a prompt soliciting the user to provide input.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the natural language message is feedback provided in response to input received from the user.

5   17. The method of claim 14 wherein the natural language message is a status message provided to the user in response to a pre-programmed inquiry from the keystroke output wedge to the operating system.

18. The method of claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

10   d) converting user input data into keystroke output data; and

e) transmitting the keystroke output data to an operating system.

19. A method for presenting a natural language message to a user from a keystroke output wedge and converting input data from an input device into

15   keystroke data, the method comprising:

a) querying an operating system for information,

b) receiving in a keystroke output wedge information from an operating system;

c) providing to a user from the keystroke output wedge a natural language

20   message, where the natural language message is a function of the information from the operating system;

d) converting user input data into keystroke data; and

e) transmitting the keystroke data to an operating system.

25   20 The method of claim 19 wherein the information relates to an application program designed to receive keystroke input.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the natural language message is a prompt soliciting the user to provide input data.

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22. The method of claim 20 wherein the natural language message is feedback provided in response to input data received from the user.

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23. The method of claim 20 wherein the natural language message is a status message provided to the user in response to a pre-programmed inquiry from the keystroke output wedge to the operating system.

24. The method of claim 19 further comprising receiving in a keystroke output wedge input data from a data input device.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the data input device is a bar code data input device.

26. A method for presenting a natural language message to a user from a keystroke output wedge, the method comprising:

   a) querying a Windows-type operating system for information;

   b) transmitting to a Windows API a query for information from a keystroke output wedge;

   c) receiving in the keystroke output wedge information from the Windows-type operating system in response to the query; and

   d) providing to a user from the keystroke output wedge a natural language message, where the natural language message is a function of the information from the operating system.

27 The method of claim 26 wherein the information relates to a Windows-type application program designed to receive keystroke input.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the natural language message is a prompt soliciting the user to provide input data.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein the natural language message is feedback provided in response to input data received from the user.

30. The method of claim 27 wherein the natural language message is a status message provided to the user in response to a pre-programmed inquiry from the keystroke output wedge to the operating system.

31. The method of claim 26 further comprising receiving in a keystroke output wedge input data from a data input device.

5   32.   The method of claim 26 wherein the data input device is a bar code data input device.

33.   The method of claim 26 where the step of transmitting to a Windows API further includes transmitting a GetForegroundWindow function.

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34.   The method of claim 26 where the step of transmitting to a Windows API further includes transmitting a GetWindowText function.

35.   The method of claim 26 where the step of providing to a user from the
15   keystroke output wedge a natural language message further includes transmitting to a Windows API a sndPlaySound function.

36.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 1 embodied in a computer readable medium.
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37.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 2 embodied in a computer readable medium.

38.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 3
25   embodied in a computer readable medium.

39.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 4 embodied in a computer readable medium.

30   40.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 5 embodied in a computer readable medium.

41.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 6 embodied in a computer readable medium.

42.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 7 embodied in a computer readable medium.

43.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 8 embodied in a computer readable medium.

44.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 9 embodied in a computer readable medium.

45.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 10 embodied in a computer readable medium.

46.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 11 embodied in a computer readable medium.

47.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 12 embodied in a computer readable medium.

48.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 13 embodied in a computer readable medium.

49.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 14 embodied in a computer readable medium.

50.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 15 embodied in a computer readable medium.

51.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 16 embodied in a computer readable medium.

52.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 17 embodied in a computer readable medium.

53.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 18 embodied in a computer readable medium.

54.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 19 embodied in a computer readable medium.

55.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 20 embodied in a computer readable medium.

56.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 21 embodied in a computer readable medium.

57.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 22 embodied in a computer readable medium.

58.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 23 embodied in a computer readable medium.

59.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 24 embodied in a computer readable medium.

60.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 25 embodied in a computer readable medium.

61.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 26 embodied in a computer readable medium.

62.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 27 embodied in a computer readable medium.

63.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 28 embodied in a computer readable medium.

64.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 29 embodied in a computer readable medium.

65.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 30 embodied in a computer readable medium.

66.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 31 embodied in a computer readable medium.

67.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 32 embodied in a computer readable medium.

68.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 33 embodied in a computer readable medium.

69.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 34 embodied in a computer readable medium.

70.   A computer program capable of performing the method of claim 35 embodied in a computer readable medium.